



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Frederic P. Field et al.

Serial No.: 10/046,453

Filing Date: 10/19/2001

For: SURGICAL SUTURING

INSTRUMENT AND METHOD OF
USE

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: G. Jackson

Attorney's Docket No.: ONUX-16

RECEIVED

FEB 24 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicants hereby petition for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding OFFICE ACTION mailed August 13, 2003, with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from November 13, 2003 to February 13, 2004.

A check in the amount of \$475.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of a Small Entity status.

ONUX-16

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

February 13, 2004

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

Scott R. Foster

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

Scott R. Foster

(SIGNATURE)

February 13, 2004

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,



Scott R. Foster

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